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Contact: Linda Rozett/Jamal Ware

U.S. Chamber Honors Rep. Brad Carson with “Spirit of Enterprise” Award

Carson Backed Business on Key Congressional Votes

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The United States Chamber of Commerce today presented Rep. Brad Carson (D-OK-2) with its 2004 “Spirit of Enterprise” award for his strong support for its pro-business legislative agenda in the first session of the 108th Congress.

“As America's economy continues to expand, the importance of supporting pro-growth policies in Congress becomes increasingly clear,” said Thomas J. Donohue, Chamber President and CEO. “Brad Carson is a leader who time and again has supported legislation to create jobs, increase productivity, and strengthen our nation’s recovering economy.”

The Chamber awards the “Spirit of Enterprise” based on rankings it gives members of Congress for key business votes set out in its annual publication *How They Voted*. Rep. Carson earned a 72 percent score with the Chamber last year and has compiled a 73 percent cumulative ranking during his tenure in Congress. Among the key votes counted by the Chamber in 2003 were votes approving the \$350 billion Jobs and Growth Tax Relief package, the Singapore and Chile free trade agreements, and the most sweeping overhaul of Medicare since the program's creation in 1965.

Chamber-designated “key votes” are recorded floor votes on issues established as priorities by the Chamber’s board of directors and on which the Chamber communicates its position prior to the vote. Members of Congress who support the Chamber’s position on at least 70 percent of key votes receive the “Spirit of Enterprise” award.

For the first session of the 108th Congress, the Chamber designated 23 Senate votes and 30 House votes as key votes.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation, representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector and region.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: A complete list of key votes and ratings is available online.
www.uschamber.com.